

Come Talk With Me



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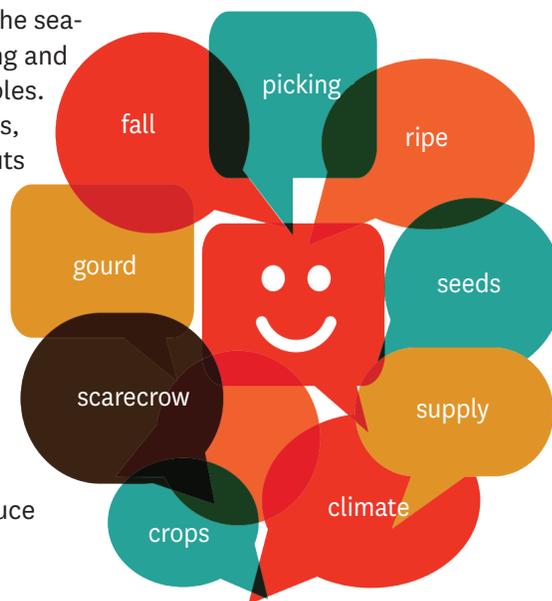


From Your Audiologist

- As your child's IEP meeting approaches, request the most current audiology report from your child's audiologist. Provide it ahead of time to the IEP team or take it with you to the meeting.
- A LING check is a quick and easy way for you to monitor your child's devices. Do this check before your child starts their day at school in case you need to troubleshoot the device or make alternative arrangements.
- Update your contact information with your CI company.

Words Matter

- As we say goodbye to the heat, swimsuits, barbecues, and trips to the beach, let's welcome the change of seasons as the weather cools down, leaves turn colors, children go back to school, and the harvest of crops begins. This month, let's think about the season of growing and harvesting and how it impacts us. Words to target for this theme could include: agriculture, pumpkin, squash, gourd, seeds, climate, farming, timing, gathering, scarecrow, picking, ripe, supply, fall, crops, quantity, toil, season, and reap.
- Help your child understand the seasons of the year when growing and harvesting fruits and vegetables. For example, winter squashes, pumpkins, and brussel sprouts are planted in the summer and gathered in the fall. For older children, you can expand on this concept by explaining to your child out of season fruits and vegetables are still found in stores due to imports from other countries having different climates that allow the produce to grow.



Parent Strategies

- When working on a specific speech sounds or language concept, find and read books with your child to reinforce the target sounds or concept. Repetitive books can be good for this such as Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See, Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed, Are You My Mother?, and It Looked Like Spilt Milk.
- Find out what books are read at school from your child's classroom teacher. Spend time at home talking about concepts in the books that are read at school.
- Going on errands together can be a great way to work on language concepts. Make your next trip to the grocery store a fun experience by showing your child various pumpkins and gourds and discuss their different shapes, color, and size.
- Use communication strategies when talking to your child such as slowing down your rate of speech, talking at a conversational volume, chunking information, and checking for comprehension by asking, "What do you think you heard?"



Read On!

- Strega Nona's Harvest by Tomie dePaola
- Curious George: Apple Harvest by H.A. Rey
- Apples, Apples, Everywhere! Learning About Apple Harvests by Robin Koontz
- Bella's Fall Coat by Lynn Plourde
- Applesauce Weather by Lynn Frost
- Pooh's Fall Harvest by Isabel Gaines, A.A. Milne, and Mark Marderosian



Supporting your child's literacy development

- When reading with your school aged child, draw an illustration of what you've read. Pinch, Pianta and Mana (2013) found that reading comprehension for children with hearing loss was improved when illustrations and simplified uses of language were incorporated.
- Teach your child how to ask questions about what they are reading. Asking questions while you are reading is an important to comprehension. Read, stop and model how to ask a question about what you are reading. For example, ask, "I'm wondering if Esperanza will save the money for Aubelia's bus ticket. How will she earn enough money to pay for the ticket?"
- Encourage your child to stop and ask for explanations while they are reading. Praise your child for noticing that they need to re-read for clarity to improve their understanding.



Let's Chat

- While teaching your child about the various harvested fruits and vegetables, use the phrase - "lots of," to help them understand the concept of abundance. For example, "There are lots of pumpkins to pick in this patch," "We picked lots of apples to make apple pie," and "A farmer needs lots of help harvesting the fruits and vegetables."
- Help your child understand time concepts by using "when" clauses. For example, "When it is fall, farmers harvest beans and broccoli," "When it is winter in California, it is summer in Australia," and "When I finish carving my pumpkin, I can put it on the porch."
- Teach your child that verbs can be used as subjects. For example, "Going on a hayride is my favorite thing to do," "Bobbing for apples makes my face wet," and "Plowing the fields is lots of work."

Social Stars

- Encourage your child to respond to requests to clarify by helping them make attempts to describe or further explain their thoughts, wants, and needs. For younger children, if your child is crying and pointing to their stomach, you can encourage them to vocalize "My tummy hurts." For older children, if they are talking about a specific person, place, or object with words such as "it" and "that," encourage them to describe the item by probing them to discuss their descriptions (i.e. size, color, and shape), function (What does it do?), location (Where can I find it?), and time (When is it?). For example, a child can communicate - "The doll that looks like a person with a pumpkin head that you find on farms" to describe a scarecrow.
- When they do need help, let your child know how to seek out help from family, educators, or from professional organizations. What questions do they need to ask? What information do they need to share?

